



**The Thurgood Marshall School of Law Empirical Findings: A Six-Year Study of the First-Time
and Ultimate Bar Exam Results of Students according to Law School Admission Council (LSAC)
Index**

January 21, 2011

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following report of descriptive statistics addresses the matriculating class of 2001-2007 according to their Law School Admission Council (LSAC) index. Generally, this report will offer information on the first time bar and ultimate performance on the Bar Exam of TMSL students. In addition, graduating GPA according to the LSAC index will also be reported.

More specifically, the report can be used to address the following research questions:

1. What are the Bar passing percentages of a normal sample of the matriculating classes of 2001-2007 according to their LSAC index and their first-time and ultimate performance on the bar examination?
 - a. What was the lowest LSAC index that produced a 75% First Time Bar Passing Rate?
2. What are the descriptive statistics of a normal sample of the matriculating classes of 2001-2007 according to their LSAC index and their graduating GPA?
 - a. What percentage of students admitted with an index of below 2.5 finished with a graduating GPA of less than 2.5?
3. What is the statistical relationship between below 2.5 index scores and below 2.5 graduates to the Bar Passage?

Procedures

Step 1) Student data was collected from the TMSL Registrar, Asst. Dean of Admissions, Academic Support, and Associate Deans, producing a collective database that contains pertinent student. That database is maintained by the Assessment Department.

Step 2) The Program Coordinator was given instructions as per Dean to perform a statistical analysis of students with less than 2.5 indexes of the last 10 years and address the research questions.

Step 3) Data was evaluated to ascertain the plausibility to address the research questions as posed.

Step 4) Found that the 2001-2007 applicants could only be used to address these research questions since Bar Data concerning names was first given in 2004. Name or Individual Code information must be matched to do analysis. Conclusively, only the 2001 applicants could be

tracked and those after 2007 have yet to take the Bar Examination so their information cannot be included in this study.

Step 5) a merging of the data files from both Admissions and Registration yielded some inconsistencies in reporting from either and the file was reduced and some participants could not be included in this study.

Step 6) conclusively, **659** of the **1228** graduates information from 2004-2010 could be used in this study. 53.7% is more than adequate a sample size for a study of this type.

Step 7) a statistical analysis was done using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS version 18) and all information is reported from the original format.

The following are narrative reports of the findings addressing each appropriate research question (more specific results can be found in the attached Appendixes or you may contact Assessment):

Question 1: What are the Bar passing percentages of a normal sample of the matriculating classes of 2001-2007 according to their LSAC index and their first-time and ultimate performance on the bar examination?

Index	# Tests Taken**	# First Time Pass	# Ultimate Pass	First Time % Pass	Ultimate % Pass
-6.3*	1	0	0	0%	0%
0*	2	1	1	50%	50%
1.6	1	0	0	0%	0%
1.8	2	1	1	50%	50%
2	11	5	9	45.5%	81.8%
2.1	10	3	8	30%	80%
2.2	26	10	17	38.5%	65.4%
2.3	39	21	28	53.5%	71.8%
2.4	89	49	68	55.1%	76.4%
2.5	133	82	108	61.7%	81.2%
2.6	102	69	87	67.6%	85.3%
2.7	111	74	101	66.7%	91%
2.8	52	41	46	78.8%	88.5%
2.9	31	25	29	80.6%	93.5%
3	21	20	21	95.2%	100%
3.1	10	8	9	80%	90%
3.2	5	5	5	100%	100%
3.3	3	2	2	66.7%	66.7%
3.4	1	1	1	100%	100%

*Note that this data was reported although LSAC Index documented may be inaccurate.

**Data did not include 9 test takers due to missing values.

A) 2.8 is the lowest LSAC index that produces a 75% First Time Bar Passing Rate in the data set.

Question 2: What are the descriptive statistics of a normal sample of the matriculating classes of 2001-2007 according to their LSAC index and their graduating GPA?

Index to GPA Descriptors		Graduating GPA
Total	N – Index -6.3*	1
	Median	2.2841
Total	N – Index 0*	2
	Median	2.9566
	Minimum	2.94
	Maximum	2.97
Total	N – Index 1.6	1
	Median	2.3479
	Minimum	2.35
	Maximum	2.35
Total	N – Index 1.8	2
	Median	2.5567
	Minimum	2.34
	Maximum	2.77
Total	N – Index 2.0	11
	Median	2.5877
	Minimum	2.30
	Maximum	3.27
	Mean	2.6539
Total	N – Index 2.1	10
	Median	2.5761
	Minimum	2.28
	Maximum	2.81
	Mean	2.5709
Total	N – Index 2.2	26
	Median	2.7154
	Minimum	2.35
	Maximum	3.30
	Mean	2.7434
Total	N – Index 2.3	39

	Median	2.7334
	Minimum	2.31
	Maximum	3.64
	Mean	2.7628
Total	N – Index 2.4	89
	Median	2.7541
	Minimum	2.12
	Maximum	3.49
	Mean	2.7668
Total	N – Index 2.5	133
	Median	2.7234
	Minimum	2.15
	Maximum	3.46
	Mean	2.7664
Total	N – Index 2.6	102
	Median	2.7642
	Minimum	2.24
	Maximum	3.53
	Mean	2.7862
Total	N – Index 2.7	111
	Median	2.9298
	Minimum	2.23
	Maximum	3.78
	Mean	2.9240
Total	N – Index 2.8	52
	Median	2.9643
	Minimum	2.20
	Maximum	3.82
	Mean	2.9874
Total	N – Index 2.9	31
	Median	3.0501
	Minimum	2.33
	Maximum	3.73
	Mean	3.0440
Total	N – Index 3.0	21

		Median	2.9952
		Minimum	2.37
		Maximum	3.63
		Mean	2.9918
Total	N – Index 3.1		10
		Median	3.2540
		Minimum	2.74
		Maximum	3.49
		Mean	3.1766
Total	N – Index 3.2		5
		Median	3.3524
		Minimum	3.24
		Maximum	3.41
		Mean	3.3396
Total	N – Index 3.3		3
		Median	2.8100
		Minimum	2.34
		Maximum	3.27
		Mean	2.8071
Total	N – Index 3.4		1
		Median	2.4223
		Minimum	2.42
		Maximum	2.42
		Mean	2.4223
Total	N – All Indexes		650
		Median	2.8140
		Minimum	2.12
		Maximum	3.82
		Mean	2.8376

*Note that descriptors are reported although Index may have been documented incorrectly in original database.

A) 25.4% of students with below a 2.5 index had graduating GPA of less than 2.5 (46 out of 181).

Question 3: What is the statistical relationship between below 2.5 index scores and below 2.5 graduates to the Bar Passage?

Below 2.5 Index Correlations		Graduating GPA	Bar First-Time Takers Pass/Fail	Bar Ultimate Pass/Fail
LSAC Index	Pearson Correlation	.174*	.132	.074
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.020	.080	.328
	N	178	178	178
Graduating GPA	Pearson Correlation	1	.533**	.325**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000
	N	178	178	178
Bar First-Time Takers Pass/Fail	Pearson Correlation		1	.599**
	Sig. (2-tailed)			.000
	N		178	178

Highlighted correlations are statistically significant to at least the .05 level. The highest Pearson measure is between Bar First Time Takers and Bar Ultimate Pass/Fail.

Appendix 1

LSAC Index Scores

		Value	Count	Percent
Valid Values	-6.3		1	.2%
	.0		2	.3%
	1.6		1	.2%
	1.8		2	.3%
	2.0		11	1.7%
	2.1		10	1.5%
	2.2		26	3.9%
	2.3		39	5.9%
	2.4		89	13.5%
	2.5		133	20.2%
	2.6		102	15.5%
	2.7		111	16.8%
	2.8		52	7.9%
	2.9		31	4.7%
	3.0		21	3.2%
	3.1		10	1.5%
	3.2		5	.8%
	3.3		3	.5%
	3.4		1	.2%
Missing Values	System		9	1.4%

First-Time Test Takers 2004-2010	Count	Percent
FAIL	234	35.5%
PASS	425	64.5%

Overall Test Takers 2004-2010	Count	Percent
FAIL	116	17.6%
PASS	543	82.4%